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Office Action Dated: 08/23/2005

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 6, 7, 10, 13, 17 and 18 as follows.

Please cancel claims 2, 3, 8, 9 and 20.

Please add new claims 21 - 25.

Please replace the claims with the following listing of the claims.

Listing of the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the Application:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A blood pressure blood pressure monitoring device, comprising:

a thin film, pressure monitoring first module comprising a pressure sensitive region configured to generate a first time-dependent signal;

an optical module comprising an optical source that generates both red and infrared radiation and an optical transmission detector configured to generate a second time-dependent signal; and

a microprocessor configured to: i) receive the first time-dependent signal from the first and process information from the thin-film, pressure-monitoring module and the second time-dependent signal from the optical module; ii) determine a time difference between the first and second time-dependent signals; and iii) to determine blood pressure information from the time difference between the first and second time-dependent signals; and second time-dependent signals;

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a short-range wireless transmitter configured to transmit the blood pressure information to a remote computer; and

a housing configured to be worn on a user's body that comprises the microprocessor and the short-range wireless transmitter and connects to the optical module.

Claim 2 is cancelled.

Claim 3 is cancelled.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The blood-pressure monitoring device of claim 1, wherein the optical source comprises a laser or a light-emitting diode.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The blood-pressure monitoring device of claim 1, wherein the optical detector comprises a photodiode.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The blood-pressure monitoring device of claim 1, further comprising a finger-mounted component component adapted to be mounted on a user's finger that comprises the optical module.

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Claim 7 (currently amended): The blood-pressure monitoring device of claim 6,

wherein the finger-mounted component component adapted to be mounted on the user's

finger is an annular ring.

Claim 8 is cancelled.

Claim 9 is cancelled.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The blood-pressure monitoring device of claim

[[9]] 1, wherein the short-range wireless transmitter is a radio-frequency transmitter

operating a peer-to-peer, part-15, 802.15, or 802.11 wireless protocol.

Claim 11 (original): The blood-pressure monitoring device of claim 1, further

comprising an external, secondary wireless component.

Claim 12 (original): The blood-pressure monitoring device of claim 11, wherein

the external, secondary wireless component comprises a short-range wireless receiver.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The blood-pressure monitoring device of claim

12, wherein the short-range wireless receiver is a radio-frequency receiver operating a

peer-to-peer, part-15, 802.15, or 802.11 wireless protocol.

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Claim 14 (original): The blood-pressure monitoring device of claim 11, wherein

the external, secondary wireless component further comprises a long-range wireless

transmitter.

Claim 15 (original): The blood-pressure monitoring device of claim 14, wherein

the long-range wireless transmitter is configured to transmit information over a terrestrial,

satellite, or 802.11-based wireless network.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The blood-pressure monitoring device of claim

15, wherein the long-range wireless transmitter is configured to transmit data over a

wireless network operating on at least one of the following protocols: CDMA, GPRS,

and analogs and derivatives thereof.

Claim 17 (currently amended): The blood-pressure monitoring device of claim 1,

wherein the pressure monitoring module is configured to generate first time-dependent

signal comprises a pressure waveform.

Claim 18 (currently amended): The blood-pressure monitoring device of claim

17, wherein the optical module is configured to generate second time-dependent signal

comprises an optical waveform.

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Claim 19 (original): The blood-pressure monitoring device of claim 18, wherein

the microprocessor comprises computer-readable code that processes both the optical and

pressure waveforms to determine blood pressure.

Claim 20 is cancelled.

Claim 21 (new): A blood pressure-monitoring device, comprising:

a first module comprising a thin-film pressure sensor configured to generate a first time-

dependent signal;

an optical module comprising an optical source and an optical detector configured to

generate a second time-dependent signal;

a microprocessor configured to: i) receive the first time-dependent signal from the first

module and the second time-dependent signal from the optical module; ii) determine a

time difference between the first and second time-dependent signals; and iii) determine

blood pressure information from the time difference between the first and second time-

dependent signals; and

a short-range wireless transmitter that transmits the blood pressure information to a

remote computer.

Claim 22 (new): A blood pressure-monitoring device, comprising:

a first module comprising an electrical impedance sensor configured to generate a first

time-dependent signal;

an optical module comprising an optical source and an optical detector configured to

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generate a second time-dependent signal;

a microprocessor configured to: i) receive the first time-dependent signal from the first

module and the second time-dependent signal from the optical module; ii) determine a

time difference between the first and second time-dependent signals; and iii) determine

blood pressure information from the time difference between the first and second time-

dependent signals; and,

a short-range wireless transmitter that transmits the blood pressure information to a

remote computer.

Claim 23 (new): A blood pressure-monitoring device, comprising:

a first module configured to generate a first time-dependent signal;

an optical module comprising an optical source and an optical detector configured to

generate a second time-dependent signal;

a microprocessor configured to: i) receive the first time-dependent signal from the first

module and the second time-dependent signal from the optical module; ii) determine a

time difference between the first and second time-dependent signals; and iii) determine

blood pressure information from the time difference between the first and second time-

dependent signals;

a short-range wireless transmitter that transmits the blood pressure information to a

remote computer; and,

a patch that attaches the first module and the optical module to a patient.

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Claim 24 (new): A blood pressure-monitoring device, comprising:

a first module configured to generate a first time-dependent signal;

an optical module comprising an optical source and an optical detector configured to generate a second time-dependent signal;

a microprocessor configured to: i) receive the first time-dependent signal from the first module and the second time-dependent signal from the optical module; ii) determine a time difference between the first and second time-dependent signals; and iii) determine blood pressure information from the time difference between the first and second time-dependent signals;

a location-determining component that determines location information of the monitoring device; and,

a short-range wireless transmitter that transmits the blood pressure and location information to a remote computer.

Claim 25 (new): A patient monitoring system comprising:

a first module configured to generate a first time-dependent signal;

a watch component which comprises:

an optical module comprising an optical source and an optical detector configured to generate a second time-dependent signal;

a microprocessor configured to: i) receive the first time-dependent signal from the first module and the second time-dependent signal from the optical module; ii) determine a time difference between the first and second time-dependent signals; and iii) determine blood pressure information from the time difference between the first and second time-

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dependent signals; and

a short-range wireless transmitter that transmits the blood pressure information to an external device;

a wireless network for receiving the blood pressure information from the external device; and,

an Internet-based system which comprises:

- a gateway software piece which receives information from the wireless network;
- a host computer system comprising a database for storing the information; and,
- a website for displaying the information.